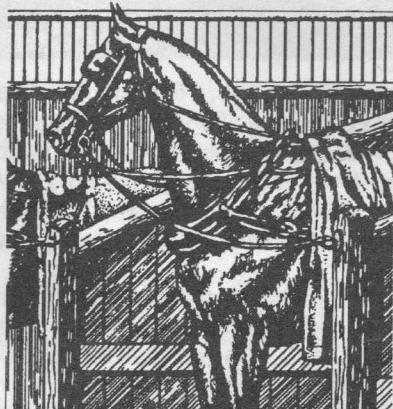


# THE WHIP



NL 80

Newsletter of the American Driving Society

February, 1997

## Is the ADS Your Home?

Probably quite a few of us think of the ADS as a kind of home. It's a place where we gather with our 'family' of fellow drivers, where we go to get supplied with information and advice, and where we can be secure in knowing what the rules are. And like the more physical kind of home, it needs an occasional dose of financial input to keep it from deteriorating.

If you are a homeowner, consider what was the amount of your property tax seven years ago, and compare it to this year. Consider at the same time the amounts of your utility bills then and now, and while you're at it, have you replaced any gutters or windows lately? What shape is your air conditioner in? If you need to replace a furnace, do you have a cash reserve to handle it? Your Board of Directors is needing to address the same kind of questions about our ADS 'home'.

Even if inflation can be ignored, a lot has changed in the ADS in the seven years since the dues were last set. More members, more services, more demands, more equipment to handle them,

and remarkably the Society has remained sound and solvent. But an analysis of our costs and income shows us that the per-member costs such as the handbooks, The Whip, and mailings are simply not being covered by the per-member income from dues. We are making up the difference with income from merchandise sales and meetings, and these are not consistent and dependable sources. If we encounter any unexpected expense (when was the last time you replaced a water heater? Or thought about it?), our reserves could be depleted really fast.

A motion to increase annual dues was tabled at the Florida meeting and will be taken up for consideration at Kansas City. If you have any comments on this matter, there is still time to contact your Regional Representative or one of the Directors-at-Large. If an increase is adopted, we hope you will consider it a good investment in a structure that is serving you well and will continue to do so for many years more.

*Lyle Petersen, President*

## At-Large Directors to be Elected in Kansas City

The Nominating Committee of the ADS under the direction of Chairman Thomas J. Hilgenberg has proposed the following for consideration as At-Large Directors. According to the by-laws of the association, the term of office for directors is two years, with the exception of at-large directors whose term shall be one year, with a maximum of four (4) consecutive terms permitted.

The following members have been nominated to serve as at-large directors for the one year term beginning March 2, 1997:

Sheila Alexander, Cape Elizabeth, Maine

Paula Brand, Van Nuys, Calif.

Peter Dallow, Fort Collins, Colo.

George Hoffman, Flemington, NJ

Dottie Paul, Gardnerville, Nev.

Tom Shives, Duvall, Wash.

Heather Walker, Gladstone, NJ

David Wharton, Kendal, Ontario

Judson Wright, Penryn, Calif.

In addition, Southwest Region Representative, Marybeth Goree has stepped down, and the Board will be asked to consider Patricia Conway, Tucson, Arizona to take over the duties of representing the region on the Board.

The election will take place at the Annual Meeting of the Membership in Kansas City, Missouri on Saturday, March 1, 1997.

## Officials' Corner

### Brandywine P.D. Official's Clinic Cancelled

The Clinic for Pleasure Driving Judges and Technical Delegate's which was to have been held during the Brandywine Carriage Driving Show in June has been cancelled. Officials will be notified of any clinics scheduled in its place. A clinic is being planned at the Canadian Carriage Driving Classic in Ontario in July. A Super Clinic is planned for Feb/March 1998. Date and location will be announced when firm.

## TRACES ...

by Mary Shaw Moore

Lyle Petersen of Waverly, Nebraska has been your ADS president since February of 1996. But he's a quiet sort of a fella, and I'll bet there are a lot of you who don't know him. Lyle is tall and lanky and looks like he ought to be a cowboy. He's a crackshot parliamentarian and has a wonderful wit. He also has an artistic bent which came to light recently when he started writing poetry.

I have noticed a higher than average level of artistic ability among horsemen and blacksmiths especially. A local veterinarian, Bob Becker DVM, is an accomplished artistic blacksmith. The beautiful iron gates to his farm were hammered on his own forge. His home is furnished with elegant and graceful pieces of wood furniture he has carved from trees out of his woods.

My own farrier, Garnett Oetjens, enlivens each shoeing session with his humorous expressions and anecdotes, most of which are not fit to print. I once asked him how he accounted for the literary and artistic talent displayed by so many farriers. He replied, "I think it's because we spend so much time with our ass above our head." You get the flavor.

Lyle Petersen carries out the tradition. His first pony was given to him at the age of 10 by his father. He laments that, "Through ignorance, I founded him by the time I was 12 and didn't have another horse until I was married. I married a herd of 4 and it grew from there. Barbara (ADS First Lady) had Arabians and we began raising them. The most we ever had was 25 horses. That was crazy. Now I'm down to one."

Lyle's current equine interest is a seven year old 16h chestnut thoroughbred gelding he calls 'Jones'. "Very affectionate," he says. At a thoroughbred racing barn 1/4 mile down the road from home, Lyle was looking for a match for a pair of chestnut mares he had. The owner pointed out the chestnut gelding who was about to go for sale, most likely to provide supper for one of our canine friends. 'Jones' had run half-heartedly in 2 races and come in dead last both times. "I guess that's why he was so laid back and so easy to teach to drive," offered Lyle.

Lyle's routine starts with ground driving when, he says, "They usually turn around and try to look at you." Jones didn't, so they progressed quickly to the long plastic poles, a tire and then the cart. "He didn't care about anything, so I got in the cart, opened the gate and said, 'Let 'er buck'. But he didn't. He was very mellow, which is probably why he didn't want to race."

I asked Lyle how he became a blacksmith. He said about six years ago he was trying to put together a four-in-hand. He was 'kissed off' by yet another blacksmith. As he put it, "I had been watching for 25 years, so I decided to buy some tools and do it myself. When I was liberated from salaried employment, I decided to try self-employment. I went to shoeing school and into business. It's slow in the winter and frantic in the summer, but it gets in your blood."

Lyle's meteoric rise to ADS president started in FFA (Future Farmers of America) parliamentary competitions. "I have been president of several local organizations since. Parliamentary procedure is a survival skill. At one meeting I made a motion that seemed to shorten things and move them along and suddenly everybody loved me."

Lyle has found his tenure "Interesting I guess I would say. Other ADS officers have been very supportive, filling in my weak points. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with a lot more people more closely than I had before. There were some

good ideas expressed at Atlanta. I would like to see some of the highly experienced people in ADS implement some of their ideas." Publicity and youth involvement are two areas Lyle would like to see improved during his tenure.

But during quieter times he has found expression in a more literary vein. "I spend a lot of time in the truck now going from job to job. I'd had one of those weeks when everything had happened to me. Farriers don't like to work on slimy feet or wild horses. I learned a long time ago to laugh at troubles. Two liners kept occurring to me and I started to string them together. I was the official farrier at a dressage show and all the horses were holding their shoes. There wasn't much to do, so I wrote a poem. It may assure fame if not fortune. Western Horseman magazine bought one of the poems which will be published this spring."

Those of you at the fall meeting in Florida heard another which I share here with you who missed the recitation by the author.

### BODY BY FARRIER

by Lyle Petersen

The scars on my fingers are there to remind me  
of nails I was slow to wring off.  
A colt with an attitude gave me a kick  
in a place that still hurts when I cough.  
The toenail is missing from off of my big toe  
'twas stomped by an Appy named Jack,  
A Belgian named Billy, an Arab named Missy —  
it finally gave up growing back.  
My thumb has a blood blister big as a nickel  
(my hammers don't always fly true).  
It isn't a statement of modern punk fashion,  
That's not why my thumbnail is blue.  
My wrist is arthritic and so is my elbow  
(there's something 'bout cold steel and hell),  
But see this dark streak on the top of my forearm?  
A hot shoe can get you as well.  
The mule wasn't big, and he didn't kick hard,  
that left my right knee in a cast.  
The brace on my leg only got in the way,  
I quit using it week before last.  
The ring of the anvil has deadened my eardrums,  
so when I don't hear you I fake it.  
But I hear you now, and I can't help but grin,  
when you ask me "How does your back take it?"

## Fairfield Takes Year Off After Twenty-Five

The Fairfield Driving Show Committee met recently to consider the future of the Show. After considerable discussion, it was regretfully but unanimously decided that the show would not be scheduled in 1997.

Chairmen Marie Frost and Charles Ley reported that "This decision was made for a number of reasons. The Committee felt that the show was at a crossroads. Over the past twenty-five years, our aim has been to provide an enjoyable, low key, pleasure driving event, and to encourage novice competitors. With the proliferation of driving shows and Combined Driving Events, the original need for such a show may no longer exist. Additionally, we have experienced a loss of dedicated and irreplaceable volunteers and supporters, and a decrease in community involvement."

The committee will meet later in 1997 to discuss plans for 1998. Miss Frost and Mr. Ley expressed their appreciation to the many loyal supporters of the Fairfield Driving Show over the past 25 years.

## **ADS in Kansas City — It's Not Too Late to Register**

The center of the country will be the center of activity in the driving world February 28 - March 2, 1997.

Several ADS committees are scheduled to meet, as well as the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. If you are on a committee and have not heard from your chairman, please contact him/her and find out what your committee has been up to.

The trip to Longview Farm on Saturday afternoon promises to be a highlight of the weekend. Robert Long, one of Kansas City's founding fathers, created Longview Farm to fulfill a fantasy - to build the most sensational farm in the world. On 1780 acres, using more than 50 Belgian craftsmen and 200 Sicilian stone masons, Longview Farm was created. At its peak, over 2000 men were employed on the property. Long before it was available to everyone, Longview had its own telephone system, electrical lights, steam heat and an underground sewer and water system. The gigantic show horse barn is complete with Tiffany chandeliers.

Long's daughter, Loula, married and moved into the mansion in 1916. She was an outstanding horsewoman, known as the "Queen of the American Royal", and was the only woman to enter into the Madison Square Garden Hall of Fame.

Our members who attend will find out more about this remarkable woman and historic landmark.

Many special items are being gathered for a silent and live auction which will take place before and during the banquet. The banquet program will include the awarding of the prestigious President's Award by President Lyle Petersen.

Please refer to the January Newsletter for details on registration. Say good-bye to winter and warm up for the driving season by rubbing shoulders with fellow drivers from across the nation.

## **Make Your Own Schooling Cones**

Jeff Morse from Richmond, Massachusetts has a great idea for making your own set of cones without a significant financial investment.

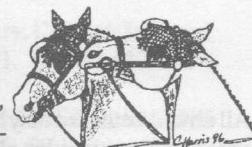
Save your old bleach bottles and fill them with sand; keep the tops on. The sand in the bottle keeps them from blowing around, etc. The handle allows you to carry several of them at once. They will survive being run over and if you want, you can paint half of them red, and paint numbers on the white ones.

Or, paint letters on them and use them for a temporary dressage ring!

Jeff says his set has survived 3 seasons of use and have been left out year round, and only a few need replacing from being crunched too many times.

## **Under the Earnet**

*...a column where we print your news, views, questions and even some interesting "gossip" - just the sort of things your horse hears whispered under his earnet! We welcome all your contributions and no names will be used to protect the "Not-so-innocent". Please send your comments to the ADS office, or Pat Kimura, Tel/Fax: 810-653-4169, 3476 N. Washburn Rd., Davison MI, 48423 or Carolyn Harris, 303-814-3467.*



*Many thanks to all who respond to the comments in "Under the Earnet" — this is your space to air your concerns, queries or whatever. Keep the ideas flowing and if you can answer any of the queries from our members please do so!*

Does ADS have any plans to offer a subscription to the Whip to interested but non-driving people. All the many benefits of the ADS are not always required if you don't compete. Some sort of affiliated membership?....Would any members in the "Cold Belt" please share their tips for driving or training in the winter and the best way to keep driver and horse warm....When applying for ADS show approval is there a sliding scale planned or is there one fee for all? A small one-day pleasure show can't afford the same fee as an established three-day CDE or long-running pleasure show....Will the FEI rule requiring four-wheel vehicles for singles be in effect at all CDE's offering Advanced level or just at International events?...When shows offer Novice Horse/Pony classes wouldn't it be prudent to limit the size of these classes? Sometimes the Novice class is large and if they are truly novice horses and/or drivers it seems a dangerous practice. We need a safe place to bring out young horses as all the training at home cannot always prepare for the show environment. Perhaps the Whip could do a series of articles on this... Thanks ADS for another great Directory of Competitions - we couldn't do without it!....I'm new to driving. Where or how can I find a mentor?....Donkey driving is very popular in other countries but not here. Any way to promote it?....I'd love to see a video on long-lining but something that goes beyond the basics.

## **Apology and Correction**

The telephone number of Margot Wilcox was incorrect in the Whip last year. Her correct phone number is 508-281-7546.

Renew Your License Now to Avoid Being Zapped from the List!

When the March issue of The Whip goes to press, only those officials who have renewed their licenses for 1997 will be listed. Please double check to make sure you are up to date. If you have any questions, we will be happy to help.

## **DEADLINE**

**FOR NEXT DIRECTORY OF COMPETITIONS:**

**APRIL 1, 1997**

**The next Directory will include information for competitions scheduled between July 1, 1997 and February 28, 1998.**

**All information must be submitted by the above deadline date.**

# 1997 - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

\*indicates an ADS approved competition

All driving activities may be listed in the Calendar, but as space is limited, please submit only dates of activities that are open to all ADS members. Space does not allow us to list all local club activites that are restricted to local club members.

## FEBRUARY

- 7-8 \*FLORIDA STATE FAIR, Bob Thomas Equestrian Center, Tampa, Florida. Pleasure, Obstacles, Concours d'Elegance. Contact: Michael Morrissey, P.O. Box 11766, Tampa, Florida. 33680. W: 813-621-8711; Fax: 813-626-5148.

- 15-16 Florida Whips Beginning Drivers' Workshop, Continental Acres Equine Resort, Weirsdale, FL. Instructors: David Saunders, Avo Kiviranna, Bob Quigley. Contact: Beverly Green, P.O. Box 1296, St. Augustine, FL 32085, 904-692-2130; or Jane Walker, 10601 NW 23rd Ave., Gainesville, FL 32606, 352-332-1784; Fax: 352-332-1785, email: jwalk332@aol.com

- 28-Mar. 1 \*ADS ANNUAL MEETING, and Combined Driving Technical Delegates Clinic. Kansas City, MO Contact: Ann Pringle, 810-664-8666; Fax: 810-664-2405; email: AmDriveSo@aol.com

## MARCH

- 8-9 \*ARIZONA COMBINED DRIVING EVENT, Coolidge, Ariz., Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Mary Jane Atonna, 2324 W. Sunrise Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85041 H: 602-268-9236; W: 602-256-4187.

- 8-9 Schooling Combined Driving Day, Paradise, TX. Introductory Level and Training Level. Contact: Donna Hornsby, P.O. Box 1420, Springtown, TX 76082. 817-220-2878.

- 14-16 \*LIVE OAK CDE, Ocala, Florida. Limit Training, Limit & Open Preliminary, Advanced (USET Observation Trial). Contact: Susan Gilliland, 7450 Alafia Ridge Loop, Riverview, FL 33569; H: 813-677-3040; W: 813-744-6373.

## APRIL

- 11-13 \*YELLOWFRAME FARM CDE, Tremont Rd, Southern Pines, NC Preliminary, Advanced, USET Selection Trial. Contact: Linda Long, P.O. Box 2196, Southern Pines, NC 28388. H: 910-692-0943; W: 910-692-6813; Fax: 910-692-8349.

- 18-20 \*GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE GRAND PRIX: Georgia International Horse Park, Conyers, GA Preliminary, Advanced (USET Observation Trial), Pleasure, Obstacles, Concours d'Elegance. Contact: T.J. Hilgenberg, 2836 Mt. Carmel Rd., Newnan, GA 30263. 770-253-1201; Fax: 770-251-2565; email: chilgenberg@aol.com

- 26 \*WESTON CARRIGE SOCIETY SPRING SHOW, Dickson Rings, Weston, Mass., Pleasure, Combined. Contact: Susan Koso, 73 Fresh Pond Parkway, Cambridge, MA 02138. H: 617-868-0567; W: 508-232-2029.

- 27 \*SUNSHINE GAMES EQUESTRIAN CENTER, Golden Hills Showgrounds, Ocala, Fla., 2 phase CDE, Training and Preliminary. Contact: Susan Gilliland, 7450 Alafia Ridge Loop, Riverview, FL 33569, H: 813-677-3040.

- 27 \*GARDEN STATE HORSE AND CARRIAGE SOCIETY 5TH ANNUAL COMBINED DRIVING EVENT, HorsePark of NJ, Allentown, NJ Training, Limit and Open Preliminary. (Advanced Dressage only). Contact: Helene or Karen Dunn, Bull Run Farm, Box 11, 7 Halka Way, Perrineville, NJ 08535. H: 908-446-6245; W: 908-390-1115 (Karen).

## MAY

- 2-4 \*1997 CARRIAGE CLASSIC IN THE PINES, Pinehurst Harness Track, Pinehurst, NC. Pleasure, Obstacles, Marathon, Dressage (Training, Preliminary) Concours d'Elegance, Combination, Commercial, Antique Carriage. Contact: Rick Smith, 1115 Youngs Rd., Vass, NC 28294. H: 910-692-7001; W: 910-695-3716.

- 4 Unicorn Driving Trials, Chesapeake City, MD. Dressage test and CDE. All levels. Contact: Diane Shellender, 1303 Old Telegraph Rd., Chesapeake City, MD 21915. 410-755-6855 or 6703.

- 16-17 \*VT SPRING CLASSIC MORGAN HORSE SHOW, Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA Pleasure, Obstacles, Marathon, Dressage (Tr., Pre., Int.) Contact: Anne Brown, 1380 Old Stage Rd., Westford, VT 05494. H: 802-878-4128.

- 18 \*MY LADY'S MANOR PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW: Spring Valley Park, York County, PA. Pleasure, Obstacles, Marathon, Dressage, Ride & Drive, Concours d'Elegance, Musical Freestyle Dressage. Contact: Sarah Bruce, 33 Cavan Drive, Lutherville, MD 21093-5450. H: 410-337-0048.

- 18 Caernarvon Park Driving Show, Barneveld, NY. Pleasure, Obstacles, Dressage (Tr. Level). Contact: Betty Jones, P.O. Box 338, Barneveld, NY 13304-0338. H: 315-896-2463; W:

- 23-25 \*PACIFIC REGION DRIVEN DRESSAGE FESTIVAL, Wind Tree Ranch, Moorpark, Calif. Dressage: Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, Advanced, Musical Kur. Contact: Linda Fairbanks, 8965 San Gabriel Rd., Atascadero, CA H: 805-466-2814; Fax: 805-461-3842.

- 23-25 \*RIVERPLAINS CDE, Riverplains Equestrian Center, Strawberry Plains, Tenn. Training, Preliminary. Contact: Amy Neary, 2548 Day Rd., Strawberry Plains, TN 37871. H: 423-93202532.

- 24-25 \*SARATOGA ARC CLASSIC CARRIAGE DRIVING COMPETITION: Saratoga Equine Sports Center, Saratoga Springs, NY. Pleasure, Obstacles, Dressage (Tr, Pre, Int.), Concours d'Elegance. Contact: Andrew Nanaa, 87 Main Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339. H: 518-993-4092; Fax: 518-993-3994.

- 24-25 \*MICHIGAN HORSE DRAWN VEHICLE ASSOC. BLUE RIBBON CLINIC AND SHOW, Coldwater, MI. Pleasure, Obstacles, Dressage (Tr. & Pre.). Contact: Dennis Tipsword, 22122 27 Mile Rd., Ray, MI 48096. H: 810-749-9153.

- 24-26 THAPDA (The Harness and Pleasure Driving Assoc.) Annual Fling in the Spring Driving Show. Clark County Fairgrounds, Ridgefield, Washington. Contact: Tish Hodges, 503-632-4966, or Gerry Pearson, 503-655-6466 Dressage (Ridden and Driven), Cones, Marathon, Pleasure classes.

- 31-June 1 \*NEBRASKA'S PIONEER COMBINED DRIVING EVENT, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Tecumseh, Neb. Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Susan Corbin, 2011 Ashland Rd., Plattsburgh, NE 68048-9087. H: 402-298-8683; Fax: 402-298-8037.

- 31-June 1 \*GLADSTONE SPRING DRIVING EVENT AND CLINIC, Hamilton Farm, Gladstone, NJ Training and

Preliminary. Contact: Heather Walker, GEA, P. O. Box 119, Gladstone, NJ 07934. W: 908-234-0151' Fax: 908-234-0863.

JUNE

- 7-8 \***CTETA HORSE PARK CDE**, CTETA Horse Park, Woodside, CA. Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Sandra Surber, 600 Manzanita Way, Woodside, CA 94062. H & W: 415-851-5569; Fax: 415-851-2637
- 8 \***BRANDYWINE CARRIAGE DRIVING SHOW**: Kennett Square, PA. Pleasure, Obstacles, Concours d'Elegance, Combination, Draft, Junior Whip. Contact: Jeanne Braceland, 13 N. Morgan Ave., Havertown, PA 19083. H: 610-449-0243.
- 8 \***COLUMBIA COUNTY COACHING SOCIETY 22ND ANNUAL PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW**: Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, Kinderhook, NY. Pleasure, Obstacles, Dressage. Contact: Nilda Burke, 315 Sweetman Rd., Ballston Spa, NY 12020. 518-882-1038; Fax: 518-882-9785.
- 14-15 \***METAMORA COMBINED DRIVING EVENT XIII**, Walkabout Farm, Oxford, Mich. Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Ann Pringle, P.O. Box 196, Metamora, MI 48455. W: 810-664-8666; Fax: 810-664-2405.
- 15 Rhode Island Carriage Days, Goddard Park, Warwick, RI. Dressage, Obstacles, Mini-Marathon, Pleasure. Contact: Dorothy Billington, 401-647-2262 or dorabil@worldnet.att.net
- 19-22 \***GMC/USET FESTIVAL OF CHAMPIONS**, Hamilton Farm, Gladstone, NJ Advanced, Selection Trial. Contact: Heather Walker, GEA, P. O. Box 119, Gladstone, NJ 07934. W: 908-234-0151; Fax: 908-234-0863.
- 19-22 EQUITANA USA, Kentucky Fair and Expo Center, Louisville, KY. Info: 800-393-4913 or 407-647-4970.
- 21-22 \***STEAMBOAT CARRIAGE CLASSIC**, Flying Horse Ranch, Steamboat Springs, CO Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Joanne Seymour, P.O. Box 880378, Steamboat Springs, CO 80488; 970-879-4364.
- 28-29 \***GLADSTONE JUNIOR DRIVING TRIALS AND CLINIC**, Hamilton Farm, Gladstone, NJ Training and Preliminary. Contact: Heather Walker, GEA, P. O. Box 119, Gladstone, NJ 07934. H: 908-439-3171; W: 908-234-0151' Fax: 908-234-0863.

JULY

- 10-13 \***CANADIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING CLASSIC**, Tralee Veterinary Centre, Mono Mills, Ontario. Pleasure, Obstacles, Coaching, Combination, Concours d'Elegance, Costume, Heritage. Contact: John MacEachern, RR2, Orton, Ontario, L0N 1N0. H: 519-928-2915; Fax: 519-928-2915.
- 11-12 \***20TH ANNUAL MAINE CARRIAGE DAYS**, Cumberland Fairgrounds, Cumberland, Maine. Pleasure, Obstacles, Marathon, Dressage (Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, Advanced), Combination. Contact: Kathy Brown, 8 North Yarmouth Woods, North Yarmouth, ME 04097. H: 207-829-3078.
- 19-20 \***BIRDS HILL INTERNATIONAL CDE**, Birds Hill Provincial Park, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Training, Preliminary Levels. Contact: Michelle Paulsen, Box 4068, RR #1, Oakbank, MB R0E 1J3. 204-444-2657 or Fax: 204-444-3322.

AUGUST

- 2-3 \***AMERICAN HERITAGE CDE**, Didier Farm, Port Washington, Wisc., Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: kDeborah Bevan, N7193 3rd Ct., Westfield, WI 53964; H: 608-296-2183.
- 2-3 \***GMHA COMBINED DRIVING EVENT**, South

Woodstock, VT. Training, Preliminary. Contact: Jan Lord, P.O. Box 8, S. Woodstock, VT 05071. W: 802-457-1509; Fax: 802-457-4461.

- 8-10 \***CALIFORNIA CLASSIC COMBINED DRIVING EVENT**: Rolling Hills Estates, Calif., Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Saundra Leonheart, 2075 River Road, Norco, CA 91760; H: 909-272-8184; W: 909-272-6390; Fax: 909-272-8790.
- 13-17 \***WALNUT HILL CARRIAGE DRIVING COMPETITION**, Walnut Hill Farm, Pittsford, NY. Pleasure, Obstacles, Concours d'Elegance, Combination, Putting To. Contact: William Remley, 397 West Bloomfield Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534. H: 716-385-2555; Fax: 716-385-2555 (follow instructions on the tape)
- 16-17 \***ST. JAMES FARM COMBINED DRIVING EVENT IV**, Warrenville, Ill. Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Robin Sullivan, 22980 Burr Oak Rd., Harvard, IL 60033. H: 815-737-8705; W: 815-337-5371; Fax: 815-337-5261.
- 18-25 World Pair Driving Championship, Riesenbeck, Germany.
- 30-31, Sept. 1 \***HIGH COUNTRY INTERNATIONAL CDE**, Calgary Polo Club, Calgary, Alberta. Preliminary, Intermediate. Contact: Gaye McLennan, Box 76038, Shawnessy P.O.; Calgary, AB T2Y 2F9; H: 403-938-5069; W: 403-279-4174; Fax: 403-938-5069.
- SEPTEMBER**
- 7 \***CAERNARVON PARK DRIVING COMPETITION**, Caernarvon Park, Barneveld, NY. Pleasure, Obstacles, Marathon. Contact: Susan Evans, 9604 North Steuben Rd., Remsen, NY 13438. H: 315-865-4576; W: 315-337-0027.
- 13-14 \***LAURELS CDE**, Unionville, Penn. Preliminary, Intermediate, Advanced, (USET Selection Trial) Contact: Mrs. James O'Rourke, Jr., Box 587, Unionville, PA 19375. H: 610-486-6484; Fax: 610-383-6428.
- 14 \***FIFTEENTH ANNUAL GENESSEE VALLEY PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW & MODIFIED DRIVING HORSE TRIALS**. Geneseo, NY Pleasure, Obstacles, Dressage, Concours d'Elegance. Contact: Elmar H. Frangenber, P.O. Box 374, 1099 Pinnacle Rd., Henrietta, NY 14467. H: 716-334-1730; W: 716-461-8589.
- OCTOBER**
- 4-5 \***CARRIAGE AND DRIVING SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY CDE**, Longview Horse Park, Kansas City, MO, Training, Preliminary. Contact: Mary Hunter, 27865 W 207th St., Gardner, KS 66030-9520, H: 913-884-6793; W: 913-895-6211; Fax: 913-884-6793.
- 10-12 \***MYOPIA DRIVING EVENT**, Groton House Farm, So. Hamilton, MA Preliminary, Intermediate, Advanced. (National Pony Championship). Contact: Judy Gregg, Box 55, Hamilton, MA 01936. H/Fax: 508-468-3156.
- 17-19 \***KENTUCKY GAYLA CDE**, Gayla Driving Center, Georgetown, KY Training, Preliminary. Contact: Debbie Banfield, 3329 Cynthiana Rd., Georgetown, KY 40324. H: 502-863-5113; W: 502-863-5113; Fax: 502-867-0081.
- 24-26 \***FAIR HILL INTERNATIONAL CDE**, Fair Hill, Elton, MD Advanced Level, Selection Trial. Contact: Diane Shellender, 1303 Old Telegraph Rd., Warwick, MD 21912; H: 410-755-6703; W: 410-755-6855; Fax: 410-755-6656.

**Renew Now**

If you have not yet renewed your membership, this is the last issue of *The Whip* you will receive. Please take a moment to verify that you have sent your 1997 dues.

# General Carriage Driving Safety

Marjorie R Margentino, Co-Chair, Safety Committee, A.D. S., Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Program Associate - 4-H Equine Science

Before hitching a horse for the first time it is essential to know if the horse has been trained in the principles of driving, and that the horse has pulled a vehicle safely before. If the horse has not been driven recently, or you personally have not seen the horse in harness pulling a vehicle willingly, preliminary steps need to be followed to alleviate any uncertainty about the horse's suitability for driving. To avoid any possible mishaps, ground driving of the horse should be used as a first step in the evaluation of the animal. The following ground work is not intended to be used in training a horse that has never driven before, but as an outline of exercises that can be used to determine if the horse has, in fact, driven before and to refresh the memory of a horse that has not been driven recently. The safe driving horse must perform these exercises flawlessly before being hooked to a vehicle.

Ground driving in harness only, without the vehicle may take several days to several months before the horse is ready to move to the next step. The horse is ready when it is comfortable in and accepts all parts of the harness; will "walk-on" on command; "trot-on" on command; halt and stand quietly for extended periods of time; back readily on command only; and turn.

Once the horse has willingly demonstrated the above commands, slowly introduce it to the vehicle. Do not hook the horse directly to the cart. Have experienced help head the horse with a lead shank and a halter under or over the bridle. The driver should walk along side the horse's hindquarters with the reins as if in the cart. Two other capable aides should hold the cart shafts on either side of the horse, actually pulling the cart as the horse walks along. Once the horse is accustomed to the noise of the cart and the feel of the shafts touching its sides as it turns, the helpers can slowly insert the shafts into the backsaddle tugs to familiarize the horse with the weight of the vehicle. Do not hook the traces. Once the horse readily accepts the feel of the vehicle's weight, the traces may be hooked. A person should remain at the horse's head, the driver should still be walking along side and the two other aides stay walking along side the cart in the event the horse needs to be unhooked quickly. This process may take weeks. Once the horse seems steady, the driver may enter the vehicle, but it is a good idea to keep the header until the horse is used to pulling the weight. This whole process may seem slow and unnecessary, but in the long run can prevent many accidents that may permanently ruin the horse for driving and seriously injure all involved. A driving horse requires a certain temperament. A horse which willingly pulls a carriage may still be too much to handle in harness although it is safe under saddle. **Not all horses, no matter how well mannered under saddle, will be well mannered under harness.** To persist in driving a horse of this nature will only lead to unsafe situations.

Once it is established that the horse will pull a vehicle, there are many other precautions and training techniques that must be mastered and adhered to before taking the horse on the road or in public.

Foremost, any time the driver or passengers are in the carriage, they should be wearing an approved ASTM/SEI safety helmet. Driving accidents happen suddenly without warning and are often serious. If a passenger refuses to wear a helmet, they should not be permitted in the vehicle for liability reasons.

After the horse is harnessed, it should stand quietly while being hooked. If possible always have someone head the horse when hooking to the carriage. This is a must at any horse show, pleasure drive or other activity no matter how well the horse stands at home. Never trust a horse in an unfamiliar environment. Distractions such as strange noises, smells, horses and other activities may unexpectedly set off even the quietest of horses.

If someone has assisted the driver in the actual hooking of the horse, it is the responsibility of the driver to check the other person's work to ensure that everything is properly adjusted, buckled and secure.

**NEVER REMOVE THE BRIDLE OF A HORSE HOOKED TO A CARRIAGE** and never hook a horse that is not wearing a bridle.

*Never tie a horse by the bit, and never tie a horse hooked to a carriage to a tree, trailer or any other structure.* Unhook the horse from the carriage before tying the horse.

Never leave a horse hooked to a carriage unattended, even for a second. It only takes a fraction of a second for something to spook a horse.

When you are first learning to drive, or anytime you drive cross-country, or out on the road, it is important to have someone competent with you that can help in case of an emergency. Small children or people that have no knowledge of horses are not recommended as passengers on the vehicle of a novice driver. The passenger or groom on the carriage should be able to competently assist the driver in case of an emergency.

Never tie yourself or passengers into the carriage. Seat belts are for automobiles not carriages.

The driver should never enter or exit the vehicle unless reins are in hand. The driver should be the first person in the carriage and the last one out. Never leave a passenger in the vehicle without a driver with reins in hand.

Once in the carriage, the driver should always carry the whip in hand. The whip in driving replaces the legs used in riding. The driving horse should respond readily to cues from the whip and not be startled by its use. (The horse should become accustomed to the use of the whip during ground driving.) The whip socket is meant to hold the whip when the driver is out of the carriage.

Before taking the driving horse out of the home environment, it should stand quietly upon command and for long periods of time, both on the flat and on a slight incline. The horse should also back readily, but only on command. A horse that suddenly flies backwards in harness is very dangerous. When a driving horse gets excited or in trouble the best thing to do is keep the horse moving forward. **DO NOT ALLOW THE HORSE TO RUN BACK** A driver has no control of a horse that is running backwards.

Also familiarize driving horses with anything they might be faced with in public or on the road; such as street signs, painted road lines, storm drains, manhole covers, mail boxes, garbage cans, bridges, dogs, cars and trucks, horns, air brakes on large trucks, bicycles, joggers, skateboards, horseback riders, other carriages, umbrellas, balloons, water crossings, and sleigh bells.

If you plan to do horse shows, pleasure drives, polo drives or parades, the horse should be used to: sirens, flashing lights,

*Continued on back page*

# Classified Ads

Classified ads are accepted for both the newsletter and "The Whip" and are \$.50 per word, \$5.00 minimum. Deadline is the 20th of the month prior to issue for the newsletter and the 20th of the month 1-1/2 month prior to issue for the magazine. Payment must accompany ad (Visa or Mastercard accepted.) A \$5.00 additional fee will be charged if billing is required.

## HORSES

**TRICKSTER (ASB)** Stallion Service. Charmaine Rimple, 7720 Deer Haven Lane, Reedsville, WI 54230; 414-754-4734. For more information, please call. (2/5)

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Members receive a copy of the current Hand book including Pleasure Driving, Combined and Dressage standards for competition, lists of judges and technical delegates, dressage tests, and THE WHIP, publication of the American Driving Society.

## **General Carriage Driving Safety continued**

marching bands, loud speakers, coaches, coach horns and fire-crackers.

When parking a horse trailer at shows or events, give yourself plenty of room to work. Do not be afraid to ask someone not to park too close to you. Make sure there are several "escape routes" big enough to get a carriage through in case you get into trouble once the horse is hooked.

Do not allow people to come up and pet your horse once it is hooked to the carriage. The horse cannot always see the people because of the winkers on the bridle and may become startled with unexpected hands touching its body. Also keep people away from the wheels and back of the carriage for safety reasons.

On pleasure drives and special exhibition drives, make sure you can manage your horse in the presence of strange horses and people. Your horse should be content to remain 10 to 20 yards behind the carriage in front of you and tolerate numerous stops and starts. A well-mannered driving horse will not rush or become aggressive when passing another carriage or when being passed.

When driving on the road, the horse's feet should be shod with borium, or have studs put in its' shoes for added traction on the smooth pavement surface. The back of the carriage should be equipped with a "slow-moving vehicle" triangle and reflectors.

Know and obey all motor vehicle regulations, and obey all traffic signals. Use hand signals when making a turn. Drive the carriage in the lane, not half-in the lane and half-on the shoulder. By driving half-in and half-out of the lane, cars often will not slow down and use caution when passing. A car just touching the hub of a carriage can cause the carriage to flip over. If you feel a car or truck is approaching too fast for the safety of you and the horse, motion them to slow down. If a line of traffic is accumulating behind you, look for a safe place to pull off the road, halt, and allow the traffic to pass.

Before driving cross-country, make sure you have permission from the land owners of the property you will be crossing, and be familiar with the trails you use. Often riding trails become impassible for carriages in some spots, and offer little room if any for turning around. Don't get yourself into a dead end.

If you approach riders while out driving, slow down and stop until the rider signals you to continue on. Many riding horses are not accustomed to carriages and spook easily at the sight and sound of them.

As a driver, if you can remember the safety precautions mentioned above and your horse can handle the common obstacles it may be faced with on the road and in public, then you are sure to have a safe enjoyable time with your horse and carriage.



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